

Ontario/Canada Northern Outpost Camp Vacations

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Ontario/Canada Northern Outpost Camp Vacations

What a Northern Outpost Camp Vacation is all about:

Whether you are a vacation-time explorer, camper, canoeist, fisherman or hunter, Northern Ontario will appeal to you. With a quarter of a million lakes and thousands of square miles of rugged beauty, Northern Ontario provides unparalleled opportunities for an exhilarating outdoor experience.

But, to best enjoy the great north country, know what to expect and what's expected of you when you venture into remote areas. Plan and organize well in advance, use caution and common sense, obey the laws of the land, appreciate and conserve what nature offers and your northern adventure will make for happy, lasting memories.

Northern Ontario Tourist Outfitters:

Known as the hosts of the north, these are a hardy breed of men seasoned in the business of providing guests with all their fishing and hunting needs. They are dedicated to the high standards and ethics expected of them as members of the Northern Ontario Tourist Outfitters Association (NOTO) or other tourist organizations.

To maintain adequate standards, any person providing sleeping accommodation to the travelling public (including cabins or tents at an outpost camp) must be licensed by the Ministry of Industry and Tourism. Air carriers running fly-in outpost camps are also considered licensable tourist establishments where they are licensed by the Canadian Transport Commission and Transport Canada. Ministry of Natural Resources Land Use Permits must be obtained by operators of outpost camps on Crown Lands.

Steps to planning your Northern Ontario outdoor vacation:

- Make certain you deal with a licensed outfitter.
- Write to the Ministry of Industry and Tourism for a road map, fishing or hunting regulations and the booklet *Fishing and Hunting in Ontario/Canada*.
- Familiarize yourself with the area you plan to visit. Obtain topographical maps or aerial photos from the Ministry of Natural Resources.
- Write to NOTO for a booklet listing all member outfitters and describing their facilities.
- Many Ontario outfitters participate at sportsmen's shows in the U.S.A. and Canada. Look them up, meet them, ask questions.
- Scrutinize the outfitter's brochure or information pamphlet carefully:
 - Is the type of accommodation offered to your satisfaction? (i.e., if a tent, does it have a sewn-in floor? Is it on a wooden platform?)

- Is a good description of the area, terrain, out-post location and weather conditions given?
- Is the rate sheet specific as to what services are included in the price? (Are there hidden charges, sales tax, additional costs?)
- Is the time limit specified for refund of deposit upon cancellation?
- What equipment is available at the camp, what should you bring, what type of equipment is unsuitable?
- What are the flying charges, distances flown, weight limitations and extra costs for flying out game?
- If the brochure doesn't tell you, write to the outfitter for answers.
- Know exactly what you are buying before mailing the deposit.
- Beware of promises of a guaranteed kill or catch your limit in one hour. Even in areas where fish and game are abundant, these promises are unrealistic.
- Inform yourself of border crossing regulations, non-resident fishing or hunting licensing requirements, open seasons for sportfishing or game/wildfowl hunting, possession limits, big game export permits, and proper methods for packing and transporting fish or game. Knowledge of the laws and regulations may save you from embarrassment, inconvenience or charges under the Game and Fish Act.

All this information is contained in the Fishing and Hunting Regulations. Read them carefully!

The Outpost Camp: The "no frills" mini-resort.

Accommodations here are spartan: wood frame buildings, log cabins, pre-cut plywood structures or waterproof tents. There's no maid service!

A few words about tents. A tent should provide at least 30 square feet (2.8 square meters) of floor space for each person. All types are acceptable if they are of good quality and properly maintained. Polyethelene shelters are not permitted as tourist accommodation.

Under the law, the outpost camp operator is required to provide at each outpost camp sufficient supplies and emergency equipment to ensure guest safety and comfort. At least one pit privy and authorized garbage dump (or suitable containers for transporting garbage back to the base camp) must be available. Both privy and garbage dump must be at least 100 feet (30.5 meters) removed from a sleeping tent, water's edge or water supply.

Dock, landing areas, boats, canoes, motors, all equipment and toilet facilities must be clean, safe and in good repair. Sufficient gas and propane for the duration of your stay should be ensured before you are left at an outpost.

Drinking water or treatment equipment and instruction on its use is the responsibility of the outfitter.

Needless to say, full guest satisfaction is only possible with a good portion of the operator's hospitality, personal service and concern for the well-being of his guests. But, as with any other "people business" and particularly in a remote outpost camp, the guest must also share some of the responsibilities . . . the first is to your safety and that of others in your party.

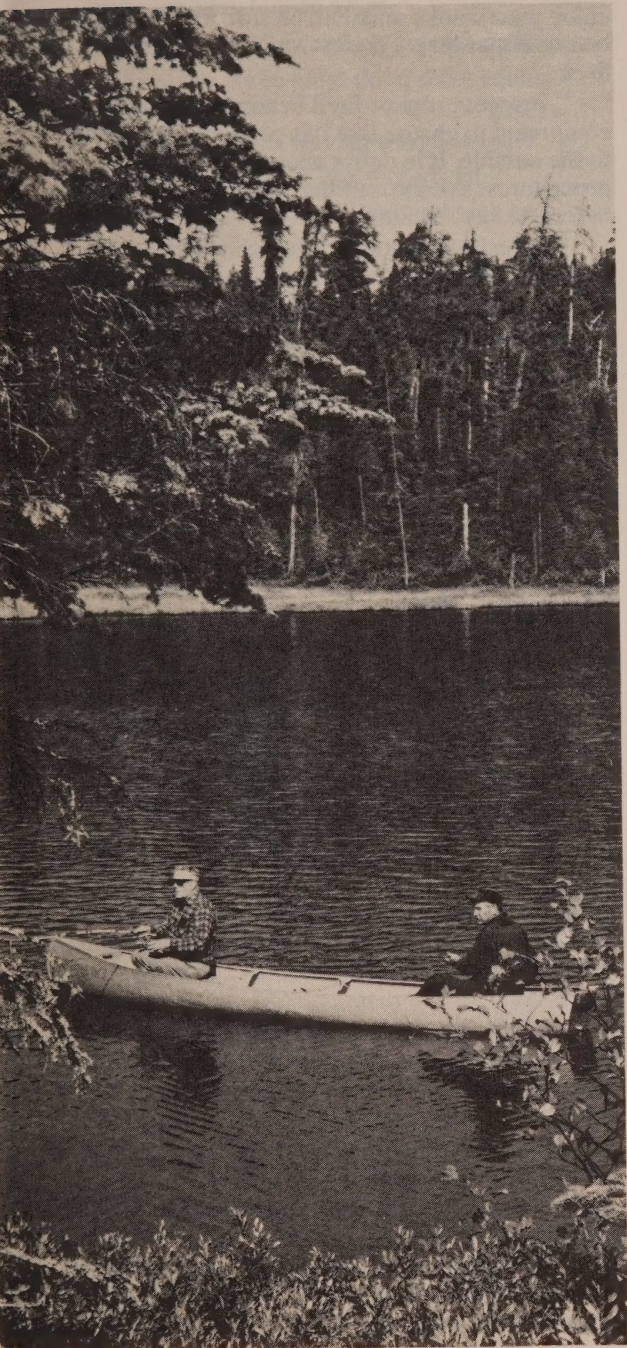
Outpost Camp Safety Tips:

Exercise due care when handling fire-arms. Do your target practice at home . . . don't shoot at bottles, cans, songbirds, squirrels or anything other than the game you are legally hunting.

Observe the safety rules while in a boat or canoe. You only invite trouble through overloading, standing up, careless navigation, intoxication, inadequate life preserving equipment and ignoring weather conditions.

Respect the forest fire safety rules and regulations. Locate campfires in the centre of an area of bare rock or mineral soil six to seven feet (about two meters) in diameter. Never leave a fire unattended for a minute. Make sure it is DEAD OUT before leaving. Report all forest fires to the nearest Ministry of Natural Resources headquarters.

Use extreme caution when smoking in the bush. Do not smoke while walking: stop, sit down,



enjoy your smoke and then be sure it is right out before discarding. Careless smokers start forest fires.

Inspect propane fired heating or refrigeration equipment to ensure that it is properly ventilated to the outside. If in doubt about proper venting procedures, ask the outfitter to make the inspection before he leaves camp.

Investigate the health guidelines for consumption of fish from waters that may be contaminated.

Surface waters can become unfit as drinking water without warning. Always boil or otherwise treat before use.

Know your physical limitations and don't exceed them.

Take along some good insect repellent and sunburn lotion.

While at an Outpost Camp, do:

Treat guides fairly. Lend a hand with camp chores or paddling the canoe. You will benefit from the guide's skills and knowledge of the bush even if he has not guided in that location before.

Have regard for the outfitter's equipment and property. Handle it with the same care as if it were your own.

Dispose of all burnable material in cooking or heating fires and bury the rest if the camp has a designated garbage pit. Otherwise, garbage should be taken out by the party that brought it into the bush. Littering is an offense under the Public Lands Act.

Advise the outfitter when you have to break the seal on the camp's first aid kit for any reason.

Practise conservation. Take only what you need.

Use the proper distress signals, but only in cases of real emergencies. Pre-arrange a suitable signal with your outfitter for non-emergency situations.

- The international marine distress flag (a fluorescent orange cloth showing a black ball and square) is the most recommended distress signal.

- Other standard signals are:
 - three smokey fires in a row
 - three rifle shots spaced one minute apart
 - three short, three long, three short beams with a flashlight
 - running in circles waving a bright object
 - running tight circles in a motorboat
 - SOS in letters 20 feet (6 meters) high in beach sand.

While at an Outpost Camp, don't:

Disregard the camp's alcohol policy. Be your own Liquor Control Board.

Litter the campsite. Litter remains a long time: food – a week; paper – a year or more; metal – 50 to 100 years (aluminum even longer); glass – forever (it also cuts and may start fires).

Misuse life preservers. Life jackets should not be used as seat cushions, boat fenders or kneeling pads. When wet, hang them to dry in the open air but never in front of a stove or open fire.

Misuse signal flares.

What else you should know about a stay in the bush:

Weather conditions may delay or sometimes cancel flights in or out of outposts. Realize this problem and be prepared for such a situation.

Under government policy, it is the right of any person to camp on Crown Lands without a permit for up to three weeks. Although outfitters may promise a remote fly-in location, which, to the best of their knowledge, is unoccupied, no guarantee can be given that you will be completely alone.

If you have enjoyed your outpost camp vacation, tell your friends. Your kind assistance and co-operation in completing any government visitor surveys will be much appreciated. It will help us make your future visits to Ontario even more enjoyable.

Correspondence to the Ontario Government and requests for publications:

Ministry of Industry & Tourism,
Customer Sales and Service,
Hearst Block, 3rd Floor, Queen's Park,
Toronto, Ontario M7A 2E5

Maps and Aerial Photos:

Ministry of Natural Resources,
Map Office, Whitney Block, Queen's Park,
Toronto, Ontario M7A 1W3

General Information on Hunting and Fishing:

Ministry of Natural Resources,
Information Branch,
Whitney Block, 5th Floor, Queen's Park,
Toronto, Ontario M7A 1W3

Northern Ontario Tourist Outfitters Association,
c/o Mr. Roger Betz, Secretary Manager,
Marten River, Ontario P0H 1T0

Ministry of Industry and Tourism District Offices

Northwestern Ontario

Fort Frances, 283 Church Street, Box 815,
Fort Frances P9A 3N1807-274-3250
Kenora, 808 Robertson Street, Box 5140,
Kenora P9N 3X9807-468-6481
Thunder Bay, 435 James St. S., Box 5000,
Thunder Bay P7C 5G6807-475-1325

Northeastern Ontario

North Bay, 1500 Fisher Street,
North Bay P1B 2H3705-472-9660
Sault Ste. Marie, 120 Huron St., Box 1196,
Sault Ste. Marie P6A 5N7705-253-1103
Sudbury, 767 Barrydowne Rd.,
Sudbury P3A 3T6705-560-1330
Timmins, 273 Third Ave.,
Timmins P4N 1E2705-264-5393

Ministry of Natural Resources District Offices

Northwestern Region

Dryden District,
Box 640, Dryden P8N 2Z3807-223-3341
Fort Frances District,
922 Scott St., Fort Frances P9A 1J4807-274-5337
Ignace District,
Box 448, Ignace P0T 1T0807-934-2233
Kenora District,
Box 5080, Kenora P9N 3X9807-468-9841
Red Lake District,
Box 323, Red Lake P0V 2M0807-727-2531
Sioux Lookout District,
Box 309, Sioux Lookout P0V 2T0807-737-1140

North Central Region

Atikokan District,

108 Saturn Ave., Atikokan P0T 1C0807-597-6971

Geraldton District,

Box 640, Geraldton P0T 1M0807-854-1030

Nipigon District,

Box 970, Nipigon P0T 2J0807-887-2120

Terrace Bay District,

Box 280, Terrace Bay P0T 2W0807-825-3205

Thunder Bay District, 435 James St. S.,

Thunder Bay P7C 5G6807-475-1511

White River District, 608 Elgin St.

Box 580, White River P0M 3G0807-822-2250

Northern Region

Chapleau District,

34 Birch St., Chapleau P0M 1K0705-864-1710

Cochrane District,

2 Third Ave., Cochrane P0L 1C0705-272-4365

Gogama District,

Gogama P0M 1W0705-894-2000

Hearst District,

Box 670, Hearst P0L 1N0705-362-4346

Kapuskasing District, 6 Government Rd.,

Kapuskasing P5N 2W4705-335-6191

Kirkland Lake District,

Box 129, Swastika P0K 1T0705-642-3222

Moosonee District,

Box 190, Moosonee P0L 1Y0705-336-2987

Timmins District, 896 Riverside Drive,

Timmins P4N 3W2705-264-1262

Northeastern Region

Blind River District,

62 Queen St., Blind River P0R 1B0705-356-2234

Espanola District,

Box 1340, Espanola P0P 1C0705-869-1330

North Bay District,

Box 3070, North Bay P1B 8K7705-474-5550

Sault Ste. Marie District, 69 Church St.,

Sault Ste. Marie P6A 5L5705-949-1231

Sudbury District, Box 3500, Station "A",

Sudbury P3A 4S2705-522-7823

Temagami District,

Box 38, Temagami P0H 2H0705-569-3622

Wawa District,

22 Mission Rd., Wawa P0S 1K0705-856-2396

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